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BAY-DELTA  
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SEP 23 1999

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**Public  
Comment**

Date Sept 21, 1999

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program welcomes your participation. Please use the space below for your written comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).

**Comments:**

Please refer to the attached letter.

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## Groefsema Realty

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September 22, 1999

CAL-FED Bay-Delta Program  
 14116 Ninth Street  
 Sacramento, Ca. 95814

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Bay-Delta Hearings

This letter is in lieu of speaking at one of the Public Hearings.

According to various articles I have read on these water issues, in newspapers and elsewhere, I have come to the conclusion that Cal Fed has a mistaken idea regarding the flow of water (or lack thereof) in the San Joaquin River prior to the construction of Friant Dam. This may apply to other rivers also.

In your plans to replace river flows to their level prior to the existence of Friant Dam, you seem to base the need on continuous, year around flows in the San Joaquin River.

Please be advised that the San Joaquin River had absolutely no flow in summer (August until first major rain) in dry and drought years.

I am certain the records show this, but either you are not using the records, or somehow they have become altered.

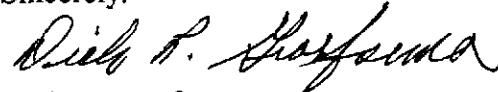
There are still some people living who worked, or lived, on or near the river, and have always stated that on many occasions prior to Friant Dam the San Joaquin River had no water.

These are solid, old timers, who have never gotten up to talk in a public hearing, or any meeting and would not do it now. However, I believe a few would consent to talk at a small meeting. I hereby encourage you to conduct such a small meeting in Gustine, Los Banos, or Dos Palos after your scheduled hearings are completed this week. If so I will be pleased to help.

The concept that the San Joaquin River always had water flowing all year is entirely incorrect!!

The attempt to take water for irrigation away from farmers, or others, to re-establish stream flows that are vastly over stated is, in my view, fraudulent, and needs to be corrected. After corrections, the entire basis needs to be re-examined, and modified or discarded.

Sincerely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dick L. Groefsema".

Dick L. Groefsema  
Broker

The author is a retired farmer.